

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-29 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Kindly add new claim 30 as follows:

2 SubB17 30. A method of stabilizing a short-pulse fiber laser, comprising:  
isolating said fiber laser from an external environment by wrapping said fiber  
laser onto a fiber spool; and  
operating the fiber laser while said fiber laser remains wrapped on said fiber  
spool.